high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management and use of improved farm implements. Field demonstrations on farmer's holding including training of farmers and farm labourers is being organised for effective transfer of technology.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Prawn Production in Orissa

1. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review on the prawn output in Orissa during 1999-2000, particularly, after super cyclone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the proposal of Government to increase the output of prawn from Orissa and other coastal States; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) During April to September, 1999 the prawn output in Orissa was 3923 metric tonnes compared to the output of 4016 tonnes in the corresponding period in 1998. The fisheries sector in Orissa suffered extensive loss of boats and nets and damages to fish/prawn farms during the super cyclone. The impact of the super cyclone on prawn production will be known only when the data for the quarters October—December, 1999 and January—March, 2000 become available.

(c) and (d) The Schemes implemented by Government of India for development of marine fisheries and coastal aquaculture, *inter*

alia, results in increased prawn output. The following Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implemented by the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying:

1. Development of Coastal Marine Fisheries through
   i. Motorisation of Traditional Crafts
   ii. Reimbursement of Central Excise Duty on HSD Oil purchased by Mechanised Fishing Vessels below 20 M overall length
2. Integrated Coastal Aquaculture
3. World Bank Assisted Shrimp and Fish Culture Project

In addition to these schemes, the Marine Products Export Development Authority also provides assistance for setting up shrimp farms, shrimp hatcheries, broodstock bank and shrimp feed and seed.

Milk Production

†2. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our country is one of the largest milk producer;

(b) if not, what is the assessment of Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that an organisation named "Initiative" has submitted a study report to Government that 53 per cent children of the country are forced to live without milk; and

(d) if so, whether Government have inquired into the authenticity of this part of the report, if so, what are the facts thereof?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.